

Appl. No. 10/080,776
Amdt. dated June 7, 2005
Reply to Office Action of May 3, 2005

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 5, line 30, with the following amended paragraph:

-- The cover 12 and the liner 14 can be secured to the absorbent core 16 by an adhesive 28, which is preferably a construction adhesive. The construction adhesive 28 can be either a hot melt adhesive or a cold melt adhesive. A hot melt adhesive that works well is REXTEC[®] RT 2730. This construction adhesive is commercially available from Huntsman Polymers Corporation, having a mailing address of P.O. Box 371263 Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15251-7263. It should be noted that the construction adhesive 28 could also be present at other locations within the absorbent article 10. For example, the construction adhesive 28 can be present between the cover 12 and the underlying layer. The construction adhesive 28 can also be present between adjacent layers. The construction adhesive 28 is shown in Fig. 2 as being present in each of the pair of fringes 26. --

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 6, line 25, with the following amended paragraph:

-- A superabsorbent is normally added to the absorbent core 16 to increase the amount of fluid that the absorbent core 16 can absorb and retain. The fluid retention capacity, also referred to as fluid absorbent capacity, of the absorbent core 16, for urine, should be at least 150 grams (g). Preferably, the fluid absorbent capacity of the absorbent core 16 for urine is at least 200 g. Most preferably, the fluid absorbent capacity of the absorbent core 16 for urine is at least 250 g. It should be noted that saline is normally used in place of human urine when measuring the fluid retention or absorbent capacity of the absorbent core 16. Saline is an aqueous solution of about 0.9% sodium chloride by weight. One brand of saline is S/P[®] Certified Blood Saline, which is commercially available from Baxter Diagnostics having an office in McGraw Park, Illinois. The reason for using saline instead of actual human urine is that it is sanitary to handle in a laboratory. In addition, the absorbency results for an absorbent core tested using about 0.9% saline is very close to the absorbency results using human urine. --

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Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 7, line 3, with the following amended paragraph:

— The superabsorbent 32 that can be added to the absorbent core 16 can be produced to have almost any physical form. Commonly, the superabsorbent 32 is in the shape of small particles having a major dimension of less than about 500 microns. Superabsorbents are commercially available from several different vendors including Dow Chemical Company, Hoechst-Celanese and Stockhausen, Inc. Two superabsorbents that work well for retaining urine are DRYTECH[®] 2035M and FAVOR[®] SXM 880. DRYTECH[®] 2035M is available from Dow Chemical Company, having a mailing address of P.O. Box 846028 Dallas, Texas 75284-6028. FAVOR[®] SXM 880 is available from Stockhausen, Inc., having a mailing address of P.O. Box 7247-7261 Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19170-7261. —

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 9, line 29, with the following amended paragraph:

— Still referring to Fig. 2, the garment side liner 14 of the absorbent article 10 has an exterior surface 42. Secured to the exterior surface 42 is an attachment means 44. The attachment means 44 is preferably one or more strips of a garment adhesive. However, the attachment means 44 can include other forms of attachment mechanisms. Other forms of attachment mechanisms that can be utilized include hook and/or loop fasteners, tape, glue, etc. VELCRO[®] is one form of a hook fastener that engages a loop material. VELCRO[®] is a registered trademark of Velcro Industries, having a mailing address of 406 Brown Avenue, Manchester, New Hampshire 03103. When the attachment means 44 is a garment adhesive, the adhesive can be either a hot or cold melt adhesive that is sprayed, brushed, slot coated or otherwise applied onto the exterior surface 42 of the liner 14. The garment adhesive can be applied as one or more beads, lines or strips of adhesive aligned approximately parallel to the longitudinal axis x--x. Preferably, the garment adhesive is a hot melt adhesive. Garment adhesive is commercially available from several vendors. One such vendor is National Starch Co., having an office at 10 Finderne Avenue, Bridgewater, New Jersey 08807. —

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 13, line 12, with the following amended paragraph:

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-- The absorbent article 10 can be visualized as a secondary absorbent structure that is used to extend or prolong the useful life of the primary absorbent undergarment 22. Since the primary absorbent undergarment 22 is more costly than the absorbent article 10, the consumer can extend the life of the primary absorbent article 22 for a relatively small amount of money. It is also possible for the consumer to sequentially exchange the original absorbent article 10 with one or more absorbent article articles 10 before the primary absorbent undergarment 22 becomes so saturated with body fluid that it has to be replaced. --

Please replace the Abstract beginning at page 25 with the following amended Abstract:

-- A method is disclosed of securing an absorbent article to a primary absorbent undergarment and positioning the undergarment around a wearer's torso. ~~The undergarment has a liquid permeable bodyside cover, a liquid impermeable baffle and an absorbent positioned therebetween.~~ The undergarment also has a waist opening, a pair of leg openings and a crotch portion formed between the pair of leg openings. The method includes the steps of forming an absorbent article having a liquid permeable bodyside cover, a liquid permeable garment side liner and an absorbent core enclosed by the cover. The absorbent article has a pair of fringes formed by joining the cover to the liner. The primary absorbent undergarment is positioned onto a wearer's legs. The absorbent article is then placed over at least a portion of the crotch portion of the undergarment and is ~~pressed there against so as to secure the attachment means secured thereto. The absorbent article will acquire a curvature that causes the pair of fringes to be biased upward to form a pair of upstanding side walls. The pair of upstanding side walls will prevent body fluid from running off of the absorbent article.~~ The primary absorbent undergarment is then pulled up around the wearer's torso such that the pair of upstanding side walls is aligned against the wearer's groin. --